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# Memo to Bob Fagin from Johnny Randall and the Dept. of Natural Sciences about GMLC

Johnny Randall

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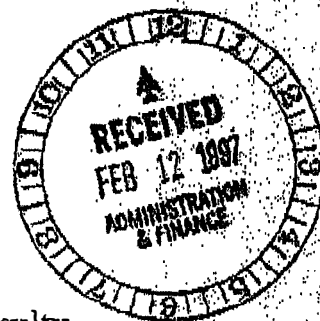
## Memorandum

DATE: 13 February, 1997

TO: Bob Fagin, Vice President for Administration and Finance

FROM: Johnny Randall and the Department of Natural Sciences Faculty

RE: re



On Thursday, 6 February, 1997, President Herbert held a meeting with Engineering and Natural Sciences faculty concerning the potential for interactions between UNF and the Army Corps of Engineers (if they locate on campus). At the end of this meeting Dr. Herbert introduced the proposal for a three-hole golf course and driving range to be developed on the southeastern corner of campus. He indicated that if anyone at the meeting had any comments on this proposed golf course, they should be directed to you. These comments are outlined below.

- ✓ 1. This golf course/golf learning center is primarily designed to serve the UNF golf team, with potential use from other UNF students, faculty, staff, and the Jacksonville community. We do not believe that our golf team would significantly benefit from a three-hole golf course. Expertise is gained from the challenge of fairway diversity, not from repeatedly playing the same three holes. The golf team already has access to TPC Sawgrass, a professional, "world class" facility to which a three-hole training course cannot compare.
- ✓ 2. Golf courses, however small, require a tremendous amount of physical maintenance. According to UNF golf coach, John Brooks, our current grounds crew will not be able to accommodate the additional work, and hiring additional maintenance crews trained for golf course maintenance will be required.
- ? 3. The upland site proposed for the golf course is by definition very dry and composed of infertile soils. This location would require considerable maintenance in terms of irrigation (i.e., daily watering most of the year) and fertilizer.
- ? 4. Golf courses are notorious sources of pollution from fertilizer and pesticide runoff. The adjacent UNF Nature Preserve and any locations "down-stream" from UNF could be adversely affected. (Some faculty and staff consider the proposed golf course site within the current Nature Preserve.)

✓ 5. This facility is being billed as a golf learning center where students, faculty, staff and the community can gain golfing expertise. We are skeptical about how a three-hole course could generate much interest given the 19 public and 8 private courses in the area.

? 6. Dr. Herbert said part of the reason to build a golf course was to reserve land. We believe that the 30-35 acres of scarce uplands that would be consumed by a golf course could better serve a larger segment of the campus and Jacksonville community reserved as an intact natural ecosystem and living laboratory.

We look forward to addressing our concerns in an open forum with you and Mr. John Brooks, UNF golfing coach.

John R. Ralston  
Wendy H. Day  
Joyce S. Huber  
Valerie J. Harwood  
Ed Healy  
D. J. Stone  
James L. Garner  
D. D. Zimmerman  
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